

VZCZCXRO2864  
RR RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH  
DE RUEHGO #0809 2410840  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 290840Z AUG 07  
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6421  
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1498  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0460  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 4586  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 3995  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7550  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 5106  
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0086  
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 1172  
RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 1053  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 0035  
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHDC  
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC  
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RUEHPPH/CDC ATLANTA GA  
RUCLRFA/USDA WASHDC  
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

UNCLAS RANGOON 000809

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/MLS, G/AIAG  
PACOM FOR FPA  
USDA FOR FAS/PECAD, FAS/CNMP, FAS/AAD, APHIS;  
BANGKOK FOR USAID: JMACARTHUR, APHIS:NCARDENAS, REO:JWALLER

E.O. 12958:N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [AMED](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [TBIO](#) [KFLU](#) [BM](#)  
SUBJECT: GOB DECLARES MON STATE FREE OF AI

REF: RANGOON 689

11. (SBU) Summary. The Burmese Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) on August 23 declared Thanbyuzayat Township in Mon State free of Avian Influenza after the July 26 outbreak. LBVD officials conducted post-outbreak surveillance in the area, and collected samples from 28 chicken farms and 7 duck farms. All samples and swabs tested negative for H5N1. As a result, LBVD lifted the restriction on the movement of poultry and poultry products. The source of the July 26 outbreak is still unknown. End Summary.

12. (SBU) Burmese Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) officials notified us, the FAO, and the WHO on August 23 that it considers Thanbyuzayat Township in Mon State, home to the July 26 outbreak (Reftel), to be AI free. LBVD local officials conducted post-outbreak surveillance in Thanbyuzayat Township and the surrounding areas in the month following the outbreak. Officials collected 753 serum samples and 324 cloacal swabs from 28 chicken farms and 7 duck farms in the area. All samples, which were checked at the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Rangoon using both PCR and HA HI (Hemagglutination and Hemagglutination Inhibition) tests, tested negative for H5N1.

13. (SBU) Per GOB policy, LBVD can declare an area free of avian influenza if the area meets several conditions - 21 days without a new AI outbreak in the area, completion of satisfactory cleaning and disinfection of the infected farms, surveillance of farms in the surrounding area, and negative results for all samples taken from surrounding farms. Because Thanbyuzayat Township met the above conditions, LBVD on August 23 declared the area AI free and lifted the restriction on the movement of poultry and poultry products that was implemented immediately after the outbreak. The GOB still has not uncovered the source of the July 26 outbreak.

14. (SBU) Comment: Although it appears LBVD has done all that it can to ensure that the Thanbyuzayat area is clear of AI, LBVD officials cannot locate the source of the outbreak because they lack the necessary epidemiology skills. By participating in future regional AI workshops, Burmese veterinarians should develop the skills they need to better detect and prevent new AI outbreaks. End Comment.

VILLAROSA